

A Guide to the Wise County (Va.) Business Records, 1891-1937

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1891-1937

A Collection in Library of Virginia
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History

Processed by: Gregory Crawford

Title Statement

A Guide to the Wise County (Va.) Business Records, 1891-1937

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Publication Statement

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Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word, created by Sherri Bagley, 03 December 2024

Language Usage: Description is in English

Descriptive Summary

Language

English

Creator

Wide County (Va.) Circuit Court.

Physical Characteristics

13 volumes and 13 leave.

Location

State Record Center

Repository

Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Many of the business volumes are fragile and should not be handled. **please check alternative form available heading for volumes that have been microfilmed. Please use microfilm if available.**

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

These records came to the Library of Virginia in transfers of court papers from Wise County in 2006.

Processing Information

Prior to 2024, the various business records in this collection were originally described as individual records, but they have been consolidated into one large business record for the locality.

The records in this collection were processed at different times in 2006 by Gregory Crawford. Efforts have been taken to identify chancery causes related to these business records as some of these records were used as evidence in court proceedings.

Encoded by Sherri Bagley, December 2024

Preferred Citation

Wise County (Va.) Business Records, 1891-1937. [include volume title]. Local government records collection, Wise County Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Va. 23219.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Additional Wise County (Va.) court records can be found on microfilm at the Library of Virginia. Consult ["A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm."](#)

Historical Information

Context for Record Type: Business Records, both volumes and loose records are in some cases transferred to the Library of Virginia as components of court record transfers. These business records in some cases were simply stored in the local court building for safekeeping by business owners. In other cases, business records (particularly ledgers, account books, etc.) may have been filed in a court case as an exhibit. These business records exhibit appeared both in chancery causes and in judgments. These records serving as exhibits for business dissolution cases, debt suits, and contract disputes.

Locality History:Wise County was named for Henry Alexander Wise, governor of Virginia from 1856 to 1860. It was formed in 1856 from Lee, Scott, and Russell Counties. Its area is 415.6 square miles, and the county seat is Wise.

Scope and Content

Wise County (Va.) Business Records, 1891-1937, is comprised of various records created by individuals and companies in pursuit of documenting business activities in and around Wise County (Va.). Represented records largely consists of bound volumes such as ledgers, daybooks and journals.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged

- Series I: Bond Coal Company Ledger, 1905-1913
- Series II: Colonial Coal and Coke Company Business Records, 1903-1913
- Series III: G. D. Davis Ledger, 1913-1915
- Series IV: G. Henry Stanley General Store Ledger, 1920
- Series V: Guest Mountain Fuel Company Ledger, 1929-1937
- Series VI: Johncoswell Coal Corporation Journal, 1920-1921
- Series VII: Royal Laundry Company Ledger, 1922-1926
- Series VIII: Snodgrass Brother Ledger, 1891
- Series IX: Unidentified General Store Daybook A, 1906-1907
- Series X: Unidentified General Store Ledger, 1892-1896
- Series XI: Unidentified Lumber Business Daybook, 1892-1895

Contents List

Series I: Bond Coal Company Ledger, 1905-1913

Extent

1 volume

Physical Location State Record Center

Scope and Content

Historical Information: Bond Coal Company conducted business in Wise County, Virginia during the early twentieth century.

Bond Coal Company records the individual accounts of customers and the company's controlling accounts. Each account includes the name of customer and the name of city and state where the customer was located. The accounts list transactions in chronological order, amount owed, amount paid, and form of payment. Most entries contain the general term "by invoice." The store's controlling accounts include an expense account, construction account, repairs account, stable expense account, mine supplies account, etc. Numerous pages record transactions between Bond Coal and Company and Bruce Coal and Coke Company. The ledger includes an index that lists the names of customers in alphabetical order and the page number where their accounts can be found.

Barcode number 1097978: Bond Coal Company Ledger 1905-1913

Series II: Colonial Coal and Coke Company Business Records, 1903-1913

Extent

1 volume

Physical Location State Record Center

Scope and Content

Historical Information: Colonial Coal and Coke Company conducted business in the town of Dorchester, Virginia during the early twentieth century. The company merged with Little Wise Coal and Coke Company in 1905 forming Wise Coal and Coke Company.

Journal, 1903-1913, of Colonial Coal and Coke Company records chronologically from 1903 to 1905 the company's transactions involving its controlling accounts such as pay roll, expenses, merchandise, coal mining, and coke accounts. Information found includes name of controlling account, amount owed and amount paid. The journal also records coke shipments for June to September 1913 received by R. S. Graham as agent for Esser Coal and Coke Company. Information found in each entry includes date of shipment, name of consignee, destination, initials of cars, numbers of cars, weight of shipment, date of bill of lading, account charged to, kind of coke, tare weight, and price. The majority of shipments were charged to Rogers, Brown, and Company.

Barcode number 1098019: Colonial Coal and Coke Company Business Records 1903-1913

Series III: G. D. Davis Ledger, 1913-1915

Extent

3 volumes

Physical Location State Records Center

Scope and Content

Historical Information: G. D. Davis owned a mercantile business that conducted business in Wise County, Virginia during the early twentieth century.

Ledgers, 1913-1915, of a mercantile business owned by G. D. Davis. They record the individual accounts of customers. Each account lists transactions in chronological order, items purchased, quantity of items purchased, form of payment, amount owed, and amount paid. Items sold include flour, animal feed, spices, candy, shoes, paper, dry-goods, food, cigarettes, ice, and starch. Forms of payment include cash and credit. The ledgers include an index that lists in alphabetical order the names of customers and the page numbers where their accounts can be found.

Barcode numbers 1097987, 1098006, 1098022: G. D. Davis Ledger 1913-1915

Series IV: G. Henry Stanley General Store Ledger, 1920

Extent

1 volume

Physical Location State Record Center

Scope and Content

Historical Information:G. Henry Stanley operated a general store that conducted business in Wise County during the early twentieth century.

Ledger, 1920, of a general store owned by G. Henry Stanley that records the individual accounts of customers. Each account lists transactions in chronological order, items purchased, cost per item, amount owed, amount paid, and form of payment. Items sold include candy, meat, fruit, milk, soap, seeds, spices, dry-goods, fish, farm tools, and pots. Forms of payments include cash, credit, labor, and barter of items such as coal.

Barcode number 1097992: G. Henry Stanley General Store Ledger 1920

Series V: Guest Mountain Fuel Company Ledger, 1929-1937

Extent

1 volume and 13 leaves

Physical Location State Record Center

Scope and Content

Historical Information:Guest Mountain Fuel Company conducted business in Wise County, Virginia, during the early twentieth century. The company's business accounts were taken over by Richmond Coal Company in the late 1930's.

Ledger, 1929-1937, of Guest Mountain Fuel Company records the individual accounts of customers and the company's controlling accounts. Each account includes the name of customer dates of transactions, form of transaction, amount owed, amount paid, and form of payment. Transactions predominantly relate to the purchase of coal, specifically the tonnage of coal purchased. The company's controlling accounts include an expense account, cash account, and payroll account. The ledger has an index that lists the names of customers and controlling accounts in alphabetical order and the page number where their accounts can be found. The ledger also includes miscellaneous loose papers.

Barcode number 1098014: Guest Mountain Fuel Company Ledger 1929-1937

Series VI: Johncoswell Coal Corporation Journal, 1920-1921

Extent

1 volume

Physical Location State Record Center

Scope and Content

Historical Information:Johncoswell Coal Corporation conducted business in Wise County during the early twentieth century.

Journal, 1920-1921, records on a monthly basis the receipts and disbursements of Johncoswell Coal Corporation. Information found in entries include names of controlling accounts such as mining, haulage, payroll, and coal sales, amount received and amount paid.

Barcode number 1098024: Johncoswell Coal Corporation Journal 1920-1921

Series VII: Royal Laundry Company Ledger, 1922-1926

Extent

1 volume

Physical Location State Record Center

Scope and Content

Historical Information: Royal Laundry Company was a steam laundry business owned by Robert P. Barron that conducted business in Big Stone Gap, Virginia, during the early twentieth century. The volume and loose papers were used as exhibits by Barron to answer questions made by the Internal Revenue Service concerning his tax returns. The ledger and loose papers were used as exhibits by Barron to answer questions made by the Internal Revenue Service concerning his tax returns.

Ledger, 1922-1926, used as a cashbook records cash paid and cash received by Royal Laundry Company. Information found in entries include date of transaction, names of customers and controlling accounts, and amount of cash paid and cash received. The last few pages of the volume record on an annual basis from 1922 to 1926 receipts and disbursements. Information found in entries include month of year, the total amount received, and total amount paid out to payroll and liabilities such as rent, insurance, electricity, and taxes. The ledger also includes loose papers that consist of tax returns, accounts, and correspondence.

Barcode numbers 1098017: Royal Laundry Company Ledger 1922-1926

Series VIII: Snodgrass Brother Ledger, 1891

Extent

1 volume

Physical Location State Record Center

Scope and Content

Historical Information: Snodgrass Brother was a general store that conducted business in Wise County, Virginia during the late nineteenth century.

Ledger, 1891, of Snodgrass Brother, a general store, that records the individual accounts of customers. Each account lists transactions in chronological order, items purchased, form of payment, amount owed, and amount paid. Items sold include dry-goods, quinine, cider, fruit, spices, meat, oysters, and farm implements. Some entries contain the general term "Merchandise." Forms of payments include cash, credit, labor, and barter of items such as hog, oxen, and bacon.

Barcode number 1097990: Snodgrass Brother Ledger 1891

Series IX: Unidentified General Store Daybook A., 1906-1907

Extent

1 volume

Physical Location State Record Center

Scope and Content

Historical Information: The unidentified general store conducted business during the early twentieth century in Wise County.

Daybook A, 1906-1907, records transactions of an unidentified general store as they occurred on a daily basis. Information found in entries includes name of customer, items purchased, cost per item, amount owed, and amount paid. Merchandise sold include food, spices, paper, cider, coffee, candy, and soda. Forms of payment include cash, credit, check, scrip, and coal.

Barcode number 1098003: Unidentified General Store Daybook A. 1906-1907

Series X: Unidentified General Store Ledger, 1892-1896

Extent

1 volume

Physical Location State Record Center

Scope and Content

Historical Information: The unidentified general store conducted business in Wise County during the late nineteenth century.

Ledger, 1892-1896, of an unidentified general store. They record the individual accounts of customers. Each account lists transactions in chronological order, items purchased, quantity of items purchased, form of payment, amount owed, and amount paid. Items sold include dry-goods, text books, clothing, tools,

candy, spices, soda, and medicine. Forms of payments include cash, credit, labor, and barter of items such as corn, wheat, and coal. The ledger includes an index that lists in alphabetical order the names of customers and the page numbers where their accounts can be found.

Barcode number 1097996: Unidentified General Store Ledger 1892-1896

Series XI: Unidentified Lumber Business Daybook, 1892-1895

Extent

1 volume

Physical Location State Record Center

Scope and Content

Historical Information: The unidentified unidentified lumber business conducted business during the late nineteenth century in the town of Coeburn, Wise County, Virginia.

Daybook, 1892-1895, records transactions of an unidentified lumber business as they occurred on a daily basis. Information found in entries includes names of individuals or companies from whom the lumber company purchased wood, names of individuals or companies to whom it sold lumber, type of wood purchased and sold by the lumber company, dimensions of wood and lumber, and amount owed and paid. Much of the lumber was shipped from Wise County to Boston via Norfolk.

Barcode number 1097991: Unidentified Lumber Business Daybook 1892-1895

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